## Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Lonice C. Barrett, Commissioner

## Historic Preservation Division

Mark R. Edwards, Division Director and State Historic Preservation Officer USGG-98-35-84-70 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street, N. W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Telephone (404) 656 3840 For (404) 657 1649

March 30, 1998

The Docket Management Facility, [USCG-1998-3584] US. Department of Transportation Room PL-40 1 400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

RE: National Distress System Modernization Project

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has received a letter dated March 5, 1998 from U.S. Coast Guard Captain G. Krizanovic concerning the proposed National Distress System Modernization Project. HPD understands that the U.S. Coast Guard is currently in the very earliest stages of project planning, and is soliciting comments for a programmatic Environmental Assessment, to be completed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HPD appreciates this early opportunity to provide comments concerning this project.

As you are aware, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, requires all Federal agencies to consider the effects of their proposed undertakings to archaeological and historic structural resources which are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on the proposed undertaking. It is important to note that the Section 106 review process is a separate and distinct compliance process from that required under NEPA, and that compliance with one statute does not obviate the need for compliance with the other.

We have no specific comments to offer concerning the National Distress System Modernization Project at this time. However, we look forward to working with the U.S. Coast Guard if it is determined that this undertaking has the potential to affect historic resources located within the state of Georgia. As this project develops, please forward the appropriate information to Mark R. Edwards, Division Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, at the address which appears in the letterhead above.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact David R. Bennett, Environmental Review Associate Planner, at (404) 65 1-6624.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Durbin

Environmental Review Coordinator

JLD:drb